Father Herbert

SIOE #7

SCENE EIGHT

[Prince Herbert's Chamber in Swamp Castle]

(The Prince's Chamber is on the bridge above the Gateway, with a large window with rather gay curtains. A very pasty-faced PRINCE HERBERT, holding a bow from whence he has just fired the arrow into CONCORDE, sings earnestly.)

#22 WHERE ARE YOU?

HERBERT

WHERE ARE YOU?
WHERE ARE YOU?
WHERE ARE YOU, MY HEART'S DESIRE?
MY HEART IS TRUE
BUT WHERE ARE YOU?
ONLY YOU CAN QUENCH THE FIRE
WHERE ARE YOU?
WHERE ARE YOU?

(FATHER enters through the Gateway in haste and stops the orchestra playing.)

FATHER

Stop that! Stop all that singing.

(Mounts the stairs at high speed)

Listen, lad, one day all this will be yours!

HERBERT

What, the curtains?

FATHER

No, not the curtains! All that you can see! Stretched out over the hills and valleys of this land! This will be your kingdom!

HERBERT

But, Mother…

FATHER

Father.

#22A WHERE ARE YOU? #2

HERBERT

Father, I don't want any of that. I'd rather…

FATHER

Rather what?!

HERBERT

I'd rather… just…...sing!

(Sings)
WHERE ARE YOU?
WHERE ARE YOU…

FATHER

Stop that! You're not going to do a song while I'm here. In twenty minutes you're getting married to a girl whose father owns the biggest tracts of open land in Britain.

HERBERT

But I don't want land.

FATHER

Listen, Alice…

HERBERT

Herbert.

FATHER

Herbert. We live in a bloody swamp. We need land.

HERBERT

But I don't like her.

#22B WHERE ARE YOU? #3

FATHER

Don't like her?! What's wrong with her? She's beautiful, she's rich, she's got huge… tracts of land.

HERBERT

I know, but I want the person I marry to have... a certain... special... something…

(Sings)